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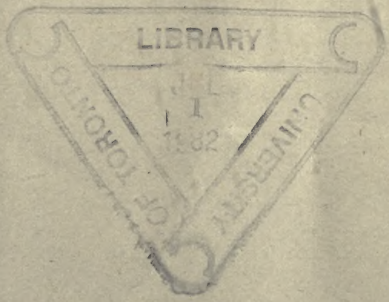
THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING.



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THE PIONEER

OV SIMPLIFIED SPELING

VOL. II, NO. 6. JUUN 1913.

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SUJESTIONZ FOR IMPRUUVING OUR SCEEM OV SPELING.

THIS iz the laast isyu ov THE PIONEER befor the sumer holidaiz; our necst number apeerz in September. We thairfor thinc it a syutabl tiem tu poot befor our reederz a number ov sujestionz that we hav reesentli reseevd; thai furnish fuud for thaut and discushon.

Furst we print a leter from Sur William Ramsay, wun ov our Vies-Prezidents:

> I ventyur tu asc the Editor tu print this leter az it standz;* it containz a sujestshun which I hoep wil be adopted, and I wish mi reederz tu se hou the chainjez striec them.
>
> Ol atempts tu reform our speling, ecsept such radical chainjez az thoez ov Melville Bell or Pitman, ar baist on convenshun. It iz jenerali agreed that we ar not riep for such radical olteraishunz, and it iz olso agreed that diacritic sienz ar not dezierabl.
>
> Nou, whiel I am wiling tu conform tu the speling ov THE PIONEER az a grait impruevment on our convenshunal speling, I hoeld the strong vyu that in meni instansez it goez tu far; and I shal tri tu indicait whair a grait simplificaishun mai be introdyuest, which wil releev ol Northcuntrimen from the nesesiti ov lurning anyu the art ov speling. It iz this:
>
> In a Northern eer thair iz litl, if eni, diferens between the

* It wil be noetist that in sum particyularz the speling diferz from that customari in THE PIONEER.

sound ov *u* in "boot, foot, poor, new," ets. I hav taicen sum trubl tu fiend out hou a Londoner pronounsez this sound, and I can recogniez foer cwiet distinct vouel soundz in diferent wurdz. But I never no, and never can lurn tu yuez or tu spel, such diferensez; indeed, tu du so wued be az trublsum az tu relurn our ordinari speling.

On the uther hand, no distincshun iz maid between the sound ov *ee* in "seat" and "scene"; boeth ar spelt with an *ee*. "Hate" and "lay" ar boeth reprezented bi *ai*. Yet reformd speling distingwishez between the vouel-soundz in "not" and in "all." Tu mi eer, the oenli diferens between the vouel-soundz in "foot, boot, and use"; in "sea, scene, and seat"; in "hot and haul," in "note and low," iz in the dyueraishun ov the vouel when the wurd iz spoecen. And I wued pres on mi coleegz tu consider cairfueli the grait simplificaishun which wued be introdyuest if it wer agreed tu ignoer theez smol diferensez and tu yuez: (1) *a* for the vouel-sound in "man, father, castle, grass, dance"; (2) *ai* in "pain, hate, there"; (3) *e* in "get, whether, sir, her"; (4) *ee* in "seat, seen, scene"; (5) *i* in "hit, limb"; (6) *ie* in "height, liar"; (7) *o* in "not, all, war"; (8) *oe* in "note, oar, low"; (9) *u* in "but, ugly"; (10) *ue* in "shoe, boot, poor, use."

(1) This sujestshun wued get rid ov wun dificulti: that the pronunsiaishun ov *a* iz not yueniform; sum peepl pronouns the *a* in "dance" liec that in "man," utherz liec *a* in "father."

(2) Yueniformiti recwierz *ae* and not *ai* for the sound ov *ai* in "pain." But I am wiling tu bou tu the majoriti; the speling *ae* introdyuesez no confyuezhun.

(3) The Scotch naim "Ker" containz the saim vouel az in "let." It iz evidentli dificult for a Suthern tung; the wurd iz jenerali pronounst tu riem with "her"; the *r* modifiez the *e*. But heer, I thinc, the convenshun miet be maid tu spel "her, ser," ets., insted ov "hur, sur." The sound iz az liec that ov *u* in "but" az ov *e* in "get"; but it wued not leed tu confyuezhun if the convenshun wer (not "wur") adopted.

(4) and (5) col for no coment.

(6) North English distingwishez between the vouel-soundz in "light" and in "lie." I am wiling tu ignoer the diferens, az iz dun at prezent.

(7) The oenli distincshun which can be maid between

"seat" and "scene" iz in the length ov the vouel. It iz not maid, and I am cwiet content tu acsept the desizhun ov the Sosieti; whi, then, diferenshiait between "hot" and "haul"? I object tu "mor"; the sound aprocsimaits rather tu that ov *o* in "go" than tu that in "lord," and it shued be "moer."

(8) Fyu Suthern English pronouns a pyuer vouel, yet the Sosieti haz adopted the convenshun that *oe* reprezents the corect pronunsiaishun. Ov coers I agree.

(10) I sujest that *ue* be yuezd for ol soundz az in "shoe, look, too, sure, boot, foot." No confyuezhun wil be introdyuest; thoez hu maic a distincshun wil continyu tu du so; and if the prezent diferensez ar perpetyueaited we shued sertinli ecstend them tu diferenshiaiting between uther vouel soundz; but that wil render our tasc a much moer complicaited wun and du much tu hinder the proegres ov our atempt tu reform our speling.

Az regardz mienor diferensez, let us agree tu difer. Whi shued not mi speling betrai me tu be a Scotchman az wel az mi speech? Our object shued be tu secyuer reezonabl agreement, but when such agreement bringz confyuezhun and not simplificaishun it iz wel tu asc whether it wil not du moer harm than gued.

Mr. J. B. Ansted, M.A., riets:

We caul ourselvz the Simplified Speling Sosieti, and it seemz tu me that wun efishent meenz ov efecting our object wood be tu adopt a yuniform sistem ov ecspresing the strong vouelz. This, I thinc, iz tu be found in the prinsipl, a dubl leter meenz a dubl sound. This we cleerli see in the cais ov the leter *e*; but dubl *e* in the wurd "been" cleerli ecspresez the strong vouel sound. Apliing the saim prinsipl tu eech ov our fiev vouelz, we shal fiend that dubl *a* standz for the strong *a*, dubl *i* for the strong *i*, dubl *o* for the strong *o*, and dubl *u* for the strong *u*. For instans, "taal" or "ta-a-l," pronounsing eech *a* distinctli, aanserz tu "tale" or "tail" in the oeld speling and tu "tail" in nyu speling. In liec maner, "riit" or "ri-i-t," pronounsing eech *i* distinctli, aanserz tu "right" or "rite" in the oeld speling and tu "riet" in the nyu speling. Aulso, "rood" or "ro-o-d," pronounsing eech *o* distinctli, aanserz tu "road" and "rode" in the oeld speling and tu "roed" in the nyu speling. And again, "ruud" or "ru-u-d" aanserz tu "rood" or "rude" in the oeld speling and tu "ruud" in the nyu speling. It mai be objected that in the nyu sistem the dubl *a* haz been adopted az the convenshonal wai ov ecspresing whot we mai caul the forin sound ov *a* in the wurd "father"; but this woz unnesesari, sins the combinaishon *ah* iz aulso familiar tu us az a moed ov ecspresing this sound. It mai be objected that boeth in the oeld and nyu speling the dubl *o* in "food" iz yuzd tu ecspres the strong *u*; but this can be defended oenli on the ground that the *o* heer iz sounded az a *u* in the wurdz "son, some, come, won," and in this cais the *o* aut shuurli tu be replaist bi a *u*.

Mr. Sexton sujests:

1. Replais *oe* bi *oa* (becauz (i) *oa* iz mor comon; (ii) *oe* prodyusez confyu-

zhon in such wurdz az "poet" and wurdz with suficsez *-ed*, *-er*, *-est*, ets. ; (iii) *o-a* iz rair or non-egzistent in English).

2. Replais *ie* bi *y* (becauz (i) in S.S. *ie* reprezents *ie*, *i-e*, and *ie-e* ; and (ii) *y* iz comon in meni wurdz).

3. Replais *yu* bi *eu* (becauz (i) *yu* iz unnoen in English with the sound given tu it ; (ii) az *ee* iz yuzd for the long *i*, *eu* seemz tu be cwiet fonetic ; (iii) *eu* iz aulredi yuzd and maics the minimum ov chainj in wurdz in which this sound iz reprezented bi *u*, which ar veri nyumerus ; (iv) *yu* iz not fonetic, cp. *sur* and *yur*, *yung* and *yunit*.

From a leter sent bi Mr. G. R. Grant (Baronhill, Forfar, N.B.) we cwoet the foloing : *

> Ie hav reseevd thee Aipril PIEONEER, and az yoo inveit critisism Ie canot help saiing that Ie think thee exampls ov inconsistensi and iregyoolariti which apeer on thee veri furst paij aar enuf too poot eni wun of bothering too reed eni faarther. Frinstans, yoo spel "good" "good" and "school" "scuul," thee vouel in eech beeing aulmoast if not iedenticali thee saim in sound, yet thai aar spelt diferent. Then yoo spel thee *i* in "time" and in "survival" in thee saim wai, whairaz oanli Cockneys proanouns them thee saim wai. Again, if yoo spel "other" "uther," yoo syoorli canot spel "use" "yuz." Hou doo yoo spel "young" then ? Aulsoa whie yoo goa out ov thee wai too form ai nyoo difthong *oe* insted ov the oald *oa* Ie canot understand.

[The distincshon between the length ov vouel in "good" and "food" givz our Northern frendz much trubl, and it dezurvz consideraishon whether it iz a distincshon wurth prezurving in the speling. Not eeven aul Scotchmen distingwish the *i* in "time" and "survival" ; it iz cyurius hou ofen we ar toeld that "oenli Cockneyz" yuz this or that pronunsiaishon which the critic disliecs. The "nyu difthong" *oe* iz oever fiev hundred yeerz oeld.]

Mr. W. T. Dunton (Newcastle-on-Tyne) sendz us the foloing critisizmz and sujestionz, which we print in S.S. :

> I mai begin bi saiing that I atach grait importans tu the prinsipl that the teeching ov speling shood be maid (in the wurdz ov wun ov yur oen pamflets) a training in reezon insted ov a training in unreezon, and that I woz consecwentli much disapointed at fiending that yur sceem ofen emploiz wun and the saim simbol tu reprezent tuu veri diferent soundz, az in "dezier" and "eezier," "triing" and "cariing," "pius" and "oedius," "moest" and "loest," "cari" and "stari," "yuth" and "yung," "yur" and "yurning," "singer" and "linger," "tuuth" and "buuth," and hundredz ov similar caisez. It iz cheefli with the object ov avoiding such inconsistensiz that I beg tu sujest the foloing modificaishonz.
>
> (1) Cansel aul ruulz that alou the modificaishon ov a diegraaf. Subsecwent sujestionz wil shoe hou this can be dun without introdyusing eni nyu inconsistensiz in plais ov the oeld wunz that it duz awai with.
>
> (2) Adopt the German plan ov indicaiting bi *ei* the difthong that yu indicait bi *ie*, which is nou dun in the English wurdz "either" and "neither." The dezierabiliti ov this wil be seen from sujestion (3).
>
> (3) Until yu can emploi a nyu leter (such az an invurted *e*), let the "nyutral vouel," or eni vouel ov a similar sound, be indicaited bi *eu* (az in the French *peu*, ets.), ecsept in the foloing caisez, whair it mai be indicaited bi a simpl *e* :
>
> (*a*) When it imeediaitli preseedz *r*, az in "*perverter*." Yu wil then be aibl tu riet pairz ov wurdz liec "infering" and "flurish" without the ambigyuiti that nou o*cur*z in the *cur*ent speling and in yur sceem. For an unambigyuus wai ov speling such wurdz az "cherish" see sujestion (7).
>
> (*b*) When it imeediaitli foloez the vouel ov the preseeding silabl, az in "ailien" (which iz inconsistent with yur "lien," but not with mi "lein"), "vairies" (yur "vaírius" iz inconsistent with yur "pius"), and so on. For an unambigyuus wai ov speling such wurdz az "serviette" see sujestion (7).

* The rieter'z speling haz been left unchainjd.

(*c*) When it iz fienal, az in "daite" (for "data"), "e werd" (for "a word"), and so on. Eeven the moest deliberait ov English platform oratorz duu not speec ov having "ai werd" tu sai, tho I beleev American oratorz duu so.

(*d*) Whair a wurd endz with a sound that miet be indicaited bi *eul*, *eum*, *eun*, *euns*, or *eunt*; or bi wun ov theez combinaishonz with an aded *s*, *ez*, *d*, *id*, *ing*, *er*, *ist*, or *ly*, chainjing the number ov a noun, the purson or tens ov a vurb or the degree ov an ajectiv, or convurting an ajectiv intu an adverb.

At the botom ov paij 51 ov the "Proposals," Messrs. Rippmann and Archer sai: "In uther caisez the vouel haz disapeerd aultugether; thus in 'able, label' the sound foloing the *b* iz a silabic *l*." If this meenz that the wurdz ar monosilablz,* I can not agree with theez rieterz; I shood sai that the wurdz aut tu be riten "aibel" and "laibel," the *l* being poot imeediaitli aafter the *b* oenli in such wurdz az "aibli," whair the pronunsiaishon ov the *bl* iz cwiet diferent from its pronunsiaishon in Rippmann and Archer'z "aibl"; and so on in uther caisez ov this sort. Again, I wood riet "baulsem" (notwithstanding "baulsamic"), just az everiwun nou riets "able" (notwithstanding "ability"), "fable" (notwithstanding "fabulous"), "muscle" (notwithstanding "muscular"), and so on; for it duz not seem tu me reezonabl tu spel a comon wurd badli in order tu giv an indicaishon az tu the pecyuliar form ov a comparativli uncomon derivativ.

(4) Emploi *ue* insted ov *yu*, without eni ov the ecsepshonz that wer aloud when yu yust tu duu this. Boeth *ue* and *yu* ar oepen tu the objecshon that thai reprezent a sound aulredi provieded for bi the simbol *yuu*; and the defens in boeth caisez iz that the propoezd substityut iz eezier tu riet. But this defens iz stronger in the cais ov *ue*, sins *e* iz veri much eezier tu riet than *y*. Further, *ue* wil leev a far graiter number ov the oeld spelingz unchainjd or chainjd slietli (*e.g.* "cue, due, sue, value, continue, ues, Tuezdi," insted ov "cyu, dyu," ets.). This wood mor than compensait for having tu riet "ueth" insted ov "yuth," espeshali az "yuth" loocs liec a riem tu "duth," just az "yus" and "yuz" looc liec riemz tu "fus" and "buz" respectivli. Theez "riemz tu the ie" ar maid particyularli objecshonabl bi the fact that yu hav real riemz such az "yung" and "sung," and "yurning" and "turning."

(5) In the taibl ov consonant soundz substityut "singer, thinc" for "sing, N.B. anger, thanc." Yu wil then, ov cors, riet "lingger, strongger," and so on. For an unambigyuus wai ov speling such wurdz az "engage," see sujestion (7).

(6) In the taibl ov consonant soundz substityut "dhis" for "this." Reesent corespondens in a fonetic coed deviezd bi a frend ov mien led tu the discuveri that he and I had been aul our lievz mispronounsing the wurdz "booth" and "smithy" respectivli, oing tu the ambigyuiti ov *th* in the curent speling. If yu retain this ambigyuiti yu wil hav such bad "riemz tu the ie" az "faith" and "baith," "reeth" (noun) and "reeth" (vurb), "groeth" and "cloeth," "smith" (noun) and "smith" (vurb).

(7) Yuzing the turm "speshal combinaishon" az a jeneral turm for diegraafs and combinaishonz liec the *ar*, *air*, *ien* in "barbairien," maic it a ruul that "az suun az the reeder cumz tu tuu or mor leterz that he cood regard az a speshal combinaishon, he *shood* regard them az such; and if this iz not whot the rieter intendz, the combinaishon shood be split up bi meenz ov an apostrofe." Yu can then riet "seeing" without eni posibiliti ov dout az tu whether the diegraaf in this wurd iz the *ee* or the *ei*, and so on with uther wurdz; and the apostrofe wil aulso enaibl yu tu maic such distincshonz az "historien, stori'et; infering, fe'rit; boring, ho'rid; ambisheus, eis'hous; singer, in'gratitued; stari, ta'ri (vurb).

(8) Substityut *oo* for *uu* and *uu* for *oo*, for reezonz staited bi the corespondent hu advocaits this in the Janyuari PIONEER.

* "Silabic" meenz "forming the cheef or oenli element ov a silabl"; hens the wurdz cwoeted can not bair the meening sujested bi Mr. Dunton.

(9) Cansel aul ruulz that permit preficsez and suficsez tu be spelt in a wai that duz not indicait thair pronunsiaishon.

Mr. F. L. Sargent (Cambridge, Mass.) propoezez the foloing chainjez :

Substityut *ae* for *ai* (which sujests the sound ov *ai* in "aisle").

Let *oo* stand for the long sound, and reprezent the short sound bi *uo*, az woz dun bi Ellis in hiz Glossic.

Riet *ue* insted ov *yu*.

Yuz *ur* aulwaiz, giving up the distincshon ov *er* and *ur*.

Giv up the yus ov diferent sienz for the "nyutral vouel." Whi not duu without eni sien whotever for this indefinit vouel sound? "Metl" shoez the truu sound beter than "metal."

Yuz *dh* for the voist *th* sound.

Substityut *k* for *c*.

Underlien in rieting, or italisiez in printing, eni silabl aafter the furst which we wish tu acsent, it being understood that a furst silabl iz aulwaiz strest unles a laiter wun iz so marct, or unles the rieter prefurz not tu indicait eni stresez whotever.

The foloing pasij egzemplifiez the chainjez propoezd abuv :

It haz been sed dhat Isaac Pitman faeld in hiz efaurts at speling refaurm bekauz he eksperimented too much. Kan dhat bee troo? Sieentifik men whoo spend dhaer lievz eksperimenting asuer us dhat noe eksperiment kaerfuli wocht evur reeali faelz. It iz shoor too proov sumthing too an intelijent inturpretur, and aul dhat eni eksperiment iz faur iz too shoe whot hapnz undur surtn condishunz.

Pitman, wurking in a thuroeli sieentifik manur, thaut dhat dhe simplest wae too refaurm English speling wuod bee too provied a singl wun-letur sien faur eech simpl sound in dhe langwij, and hee deviezd nue karakturz too eek out thoez at hand. Dhis woz a moest natueral iedeea faur dhe inventor ov foenografi. But hiz eksperiments shoed, kontraeri too ekspektaeshun, dhat dhe singl-letur prinsipl wurks badli in praktis, noe matur hou meni soundz aar rekogniezd, naur hou injeenyusli Roman leturz aar modified too maek dhe neseseri ekstra karakturz. Dhis shoorli meenz dhat dhe prinsipl itself iz impraktikabl in a wurld ov peepl whoo wuod raadhur puot up widh dhe familyar inkonveenyensez ov kurent aurthografi dhan chaenj dhe moest fundamental ov dhaer litureri habits. In trieing too solv soe komplikaeted a problem az dhat ov speling refaurm wee maurtlz kan haardli ekspekt too doo betur dhan foloe paeshentli dhe advies "If at furst yoo doen't sukseed, trie, trie agen"—but not in dhe saem oeld wae, houevur much wee shuod liek too see dhat wae sukseed.

Dhe Simplified Speling Soesieeti shoez its wizdum in noe moer apeeling wae dhan bie choozing too maek dhe best ov our alfabet az it standz, and enkurejing eksperiments oenli on dhis baesis. Wee aul noe dhat nuthing iz evur reeali setld until it iz setld riet, and dhat, in a matur liek dhis, nuthing iz riet which duz not wurk az wel az posibl.

Pitman'z masturli eksperiments teech aulsoe dhe pozitiv lesn dhat eni reeali fonetik sistem ov speling mae bee ekspekted too akomplish wundurz az a tiem-saevur in lurning too reed and riet not oenli in dhe sistem itself but aulsoe in our moest unfonetik aurthografi. Wee hav dhe task ov shoeing that faar graetur rezults mae bee raut bie faar simplur speling dhan Pitman uezd. Wuns let a sistem ov sound-speling az simpl az posibl becum wiedli familyar throo skool ues, and whoo kan dout dhat it wil soon replaes faur aul praktikal purposez our prezent aurthografik inkuebus? James Russell Lowell trooli sez :

"Nue okaezhunz teech nue duetiz ;
Tiem maeks aenshent guod unkooth ;
Dhae must upwaard stil, and onwaard,
Whoo wuod keep abrest ov trooth."

Mr. A. T. Maling (Oxford) sendz us the foloing sujestionz :

(1) Riet *oo* for the sound in "moon," *uo* for the short sound in "pull." Ceep *u* when fienal in monosilablz, az *tu*, *du*, *thru*.

(2) Substityut *eu* for *yu*.
(3) For *oe* riet *oa*.
(4) For *ie* riet *ei*, but yuzing *i* oenli in monosilablz—at eni rait, in the pronoun *I*.
(5) "Whei countenans dhe sluvnli mudl between (for) and (four, fore), (morn) and (mourn), (born) and (borne), (war) and (wore), and the leik? Dheez distincshonz ar wel wurth retaining or restoaring, for cleernis if not for digniti. Sheurli a majoriti stil maic dhem. I thinc aul dhe dicshonariz du. I wood reit 'for' and 'four,' and so on." [We hav left this az Mr. Maling roet it.]
(6) Yuz *dh* for voist *th*.
(7) Retain *k* az an alouabl substityut for *c* befor *e* and *i*.

PRONUNSIAISHON PROBLEMZ.

MR. T. REA (Dublin) riets:

With regard tu a leter which apeerd in the laast number ov THE PIONEER tu the efect that the combinaishon *er* retainz in Ireland the oepen *e* sound (ɛ:), I shood liec tu sai that this iz cwiet rong. This oelder pronunsiaishon iz cwiet ded; *ur* (in "turn") haz replaist it everiwhair. Wun ov the graitest dificultiz in German claasez aul thru Ireland iz tu prevent children from pronounsing the German *fern* az "furn" and *lernen* az "lurnen," ets.

Dr. G. B. Hunter riets:

I woz alarmd tu see that sum advocait ov simplified speling haz sujested that "figure" shood be spelt az "figer." I am strongli ov opinion, and I hoep thair iz oenli wun simplified speling advocait in the wurld hu wood not agree, that simplified speling shood reprezent the best and pyurest pronunsiaishon ov English and not the moest (or eeven the leest) sluvenli and cairles. If simplified speling iz going tu debais English pronunsiaishon and steereotiep cairles waiz, simpli becauz thai ar comon, it wil luuz wun ov its claimz tu recognishon and be bereft ov wun ov its charmz tu thoez hu luv the English langwij. I duu not claim that the wurd "figer" iz the best ilustraishon ov the tendensi tordz sluvenli speech, but I duu hoep that simplified speling wil aim at reprezenting pronunsiaishon az it aut tu be, and not az it iz becuming on the tungz ov cairles, sluvenli speecerz.

Mis S. M. Fillips (Metuchen, N.J., U.S.A.) riets:

I sai "langwaij." In the Internashonal Dicshonari it iz so marct: "lăngwāj." Tu me "langwaij" iz eezi and natyural; "langwej" or "langwij" wood seem veri objecshonabl. "Sor, bord, hord," ets., so uterd bi mieself, aulmoest maic me shiver; yet I wil engaij tu acwier and yuz the wurst ov them within a short tiem if we can hav an acsepted standerd tu yuz in our teeching. I yuz the *a* (yur *aa*) sound in eech ov the list ov wurdz yu siet in the Aipril PIONEER—"aunt, daunt, gauntlet," ets., and the Internashonal Dicshonari so indicaits, giving *a* in eech ov them. I hav never hurd an edyucaited purson sai "figer" for "figyur." Duu yu reali sai so in England? It wood surtinli atract atenshon if in lectyuring heer yu sed "figer"!

Mr. A. Brodrick (Birkenhead) riets:

The oenli saif cors for the Sosieti tu persyu in the speling ov wurdz whair thair iz a dout az tu whot the curent pronunsiaishon reali iz, iz,

in mi opinion, tu taic az corect the pronunsiaishon *indicaited* bi the convenshonal speling. Thus yu avoid the acyuzaishon ov encuraijing "slac" speech, which such spelingz az "langw*ij*, elabor*it*, encur*ij*," ets., bring forth. It mai be sed that no wun actyuali sez "langw*aij*," ets., but niether duz eniwun sai "cingdo*m*, naisho*n*," ets., in curent speech. Beter a thouzand tiemz that we shood be acyuzd ov pedantri, if need be, than ov encuraijing cairles pronunsiaishon, for duu we not claim that "simplified speling meenz cleer speech"?

Mr. H. B. Thompson (British Scuul ov Arceoloji in Egypt) riets:

Ie wood liec tu poot forwurd a sugjeschn for deeling with the dificulti ov the unstrest silabl. If an apostrofi wur yuzd insted ov the ofending voul, aul wood be wel. Then let eech man taic hiz chois out ov the hoel gamut ov sliet vairiaishn at hiz comaand. Thus wun wood riet "priev't" and "langw'j" for O.S. "private" and "language." This dificulti iz met in Arabic rieting bie neglecting the weec vairiing voul aultugether. No voul marcs ar yuzd ecsept for pedantic rieting (in which cais the literari pronunsiaishn iz foloed). Thus eech man reedz the weec voul in hiz oen diealect. Ov cors, such an apostrofi cood be omited in cwic rieting, and miet aplie oenli tu printing. It cood be yuzd, tuu, with the ordinairi soenant voulz if it wur thaut nesesari. Egzaamplz: "poest'j, elabor't, noiz'z, c'maand, c'rect," and so on. Soenant *l*, *m*, and *n* cood aulso be ritn "lit'l, bot'm, and hev'n." But this wood not be nesesari.

The Rev. G. B. S. Watson (Hawick) riets:

I consider thair iz no diferens between "dais*ies*" and "daz*es*," "pos*ies*" and "ros*es*" in the unstrest vouel soundz, and if tradishon wer not tu be regarded at aul we shood riet "daiziz" (noun), "daiziz" (vurb), "poeziz" (noun), "poeziz" (vurb); aulso "roeziz," ets. This unstrest vouel iz a moest elementari sound. In the abuv caisez it duz not duu mor than indicait that the tuu fienal consonants ar not tu be coalest. And, seing that the S.S.S. haz the ruul "*No* dubl consonants with singl sound," it wood be cwiet corect tu riet "daizz, poezz, roezz"! That iz, *iether* wai spelt, thai wood be pronounst in the *saim* wai. This unstrest vouel iz not at aul diferent from that which ocurz in the laast silabl ov "ritn," which I beleev the S.S.S. inclienz tu spel so.

We hav printed the leterz deeling with unstrest silablz becauz thai so cleerli shoe the need ov establishing whot "good English" iz. Mr. Brodrick sujests that the oenli saif cors, whair thair iz a dout az tu whot the curent pronunsiaishon reali iz, iz tu taic az corect the pronunsiaishon indicaited bi the convenshonal speling. It iz, in sum caisez, a posibl soluushon (or solyushon—which duz the convenshonal speling indicait?), but not aulwaiz (it seemz tu us) a satisfactori wun. Moest edyucaited speecerz sai "ofen, concer," ets.; sum sai "often, concwer," ets. Ar we tu adopt the later pronunsiaishonz which ar indicaited bi the convenshonal speling? The pronunsiaishon ov "either" vairiz—which pronunsiaishon duz the convenshonal speling indicait? In it *ei* haz the valyu ov *ee* in "receive," ov *ai* in "vein," ov *ie* veri rairli indeed—yet this iz undoutedli the comonest valyu ov the *ei* in "either." Az suun az we trie tu speec az we spel (in the oeld wai) we get intu dificultiz.

Az for the wurdz in *-age*, az we hav pointed out, tu speec az we

spel wood leed tu a pronunsiaishon that haz never egzisted. It iz truu that in S.S. we riet "cingdom, naishon"; but this iz *faute de mieux*—an unsatisfactori, temporari compromiez. We ar cwiet prepaird tu adopt the sujestion that "cingdum, naishun" shood be yuzd insted.

CORUPTING THE LANGWIJ.

SO fyu peepl taic the trubl tu noetis hou thai pronouns wurdz themselvz, or hou eniwun els pronounsez them, that on being confrunted with a fonetic transcript thair furst impuls iz tu acyuz the transcriptor iether ov being incompetent or ov triing tu corupt the langwij.

Aafter endyuring this for sum tiem, Dr. Henry Sweet defended hiz pozishon in the prefas tu hiz *Primer of Spoken English* (1890); and aultho Simplified Speling duz not atemt tu giv an egzact fonetic transcript, it suferz so ofen from the saim acyuzaishonz that the foloing ecstracts from Dr. Sweet's booc ar wurth reprodyusing.

Neerli a cworter ov a sentyuri haz elapst sins theez wurdz wer pend, and part ov them ar nou out ov dait, for meni competent obzurverz hav sins studid thair oen speech, and much haz been publisht on the subject. But the thing that haz not chainjd in the leest iz the ignorans ov the jeneral public and thair convicshon that thair oen pronunsiaishon iz riet and that everiwun els'z iz rong.

The object ov this booc iz tu giv a faithful pictyur—a fonetic foetograaf—ov edyucaited spoecen English az distingwisht from vulgar and provinshal English, on the wun hand, and literari English on the uther hand. At the saim tiem I must disclaim eni intenshon ov seting up a standerd ov spoecen English. Aul I can duu iz tu record thoez facts which ar acsesibl tu me, tu descrieb that variëti ov spoecen English ov which I hav a pursonal nolej—that iz, the edyucaited speech ov London and the district round it, the orijinal hoem ov standerd English boeth in its spoecen and literari form.

The comparativ pyuriti and corectnes ov the diferent variëtiz ov spoecen English iz popyularli estimaited bi the degree ov aprocsimaishon tu the riten langwij. But theez comparisonz ar jenerali carid out in a wun-sieded and parshal spirit. Caushon iz recwierd in atemting tu estimait the comparativ byuti and uglines ov the diferent variëtiz ov spoecen English. Our impreshonz on this point ar so entierli the rezult ov asoesiaishon that it iz hardli posibl tu argyu about them.

Anuther dificulti about seting up a standerd ov spoecen English iz that it chainjez from jeneraishon tu jeneraishon and iz not absoluutli yuniform eeven amung speecerz ov the saim jeneraishon, living in the saim plais, and having the saim soeshal standing. Heer, again, aul I can duu iz tu descrieb that form ov the London dialect with which I am sufishentli familiar tu enaibl me tu deel

with it satisfactorili. The oenli real familiariti we can hav iz with the langwij we speec ourselvz. Az suun az we goe beyond that, and atemt tu deturmin hou uther peepl speec—whether bi obzervaishon or cwestioning—we maic ourselvz liabl tu faul intu the groesest blunderz.

I repeet, then, that this booc iz nuthing but a contribyushon tu our nolej ov spoecen English—a nolej which iz stil in its infansi, and can be advaanst oenli bi a number ov uther traind obzurverz giving similar descripshonz ov thair oen pronunsiaishon. It iz oenli on the baisis ov such individyual investigaishonz that we can hoep tu setl whot ar the actyual facts ov spoecen English in Grait Britain, America, and Australia. Til we noe hou we actyuali duu speec we can not deel with the cwestion hou we aut tu speec, and whether it iz posibl tu reform our pronunsiaishon and taic steps tu prezurv the yuniti ov English speech aul oever the wurld.

Enihou, I hoep we shal hav no mor nonsens about mi plain staitment ov facts being a bloe aimd at corectnes ov speech. If mi critics wood oenli realiez that this booc, tugether with the *Elementarbuch*, iz the oenli wun in eni langwij that givz adecwait fonetic tecsts with the sentens-stres and intonaishon marct thruout, thai wood see that it iz mor profitabl for them tu discus the plan and tendensiz ov the booc itself than tu abyuz me for not supresing and distorting facts which hapen tu shoe thair prejoodisez.

TENS AND LACS VOUELZ.

IN ordinari speling we riet "full, pull, wood," and "fool, pool, wooed," and then proseed tu pronouns them vairiusli acording tu the part ov the cuntri that we cum from. Meni ov our Northern memberz fiend fault with the S.S.S. for diferenshiaiting between the vouel soundz ov the sets ("fool, pool, wood; fuul, puul, wuud") and declair that no distincshon reali egzists.

The point at isyu can be cleerd up bi tuu paragraafs from *The Pronunciation of English*, bi Mr. Daniel Jones, and *The Pronunciation ov English in Scotland*, bi Mr. William Grant, respectivli, whair we reed az foloez:

> "Anuther element which iz sumtiemz ov grait importans in deturmining vouel cwoliti iz the stait ov the tung and lips (mor espeshali the former) az regardz muscyular tenshon. Vouelz prodyust whiel the tung iz in a stait ov considerabl muscyular tenshon ar cauld *tens vouelz*. Thoez prodyust whiel the tung iz not in a stait ov muscyular tenshon, but iz held luusli, ar cauld *lacs vouelz*. The diferens in cwoliti between a tens vouel and the coresponding lacs vouel (*i.e.* wun in which the hiëst point ov the tung iz in about the saim pozishon az in the cais ov the tens vouel, but the tung iz relacst) iz sumtiemz veri considerabl, espeshali in the cais ov cloezd vouelz. The *uu* in "buut," and *oo* in "foot," ar coresponding tens and lacs vouelz.
>
> "*Hie bac lacs rounded*. This vouel haz practicali the saim tung pozishon az *uu*, but the lips shoe les rounding and protruuzhon and the muslz ov the tung and cheecs ar lacs. It iz ov rair ocurens in jenyuin Scotish, but mai be hurd sumtiemz in unacsented pozishon. Within the laast fyu yeerz, thru the inflooens ov Suthern English, sum speecerz hav begun tu yuz it in the saim claasez ov wurdz az in Suthern English—*i.e.* (1) in wurdz with the *oo* speling foloed bi *c*, *e.g.* "cooc, booc," ets.; (2) in wurdz with *u* speling preseeded bi a lip consonant, az "poot, pool, bool, fool, boosh, poosh, poos"; (3) wurdz with *oo* or *ou* speling, with an orijinal short vouel or a long vouel shortend: "wool, wood, hood, stood, foot, soot, cood, shood"; (4) in "woolf, wooman, woosted."

FONETIC speling iz potenshali wun ov the moest pouerful instrooments in the handz ov the edyucaishonist and soeshal reformer. For thair iz in everi fresh scuul jeneraishon iether a continjent tu swel the rancs ov the alurt, the intelijent, and the yusful ; or a fresh acreeshon tu the mas ov the inurt, the inept, and the dainjerus : an aded menas tu siviliezaishon. No ruul iz mor dizaastrus tu soeshal and industrial organiezaishon, tu cultyur and prosperiti, than ignorant and interested mob ruul ; and, if for no hiër moetiv than that ov self-prezervaishon, it iz wel tu emploi everi aijensi which wil promoet a mor thuroe jeneral edyucaishon. It iz not sufishent tu see cleerli the needz ov the tiemz ; but it iz recwizit tu act—strenyuusli, persistentli, and intelijentli.—THOMAS TALBOT LODGE.

THE CHILDREN AND SIMPLIFIED SPELING.

BI A SCUULMAASTER.

THAIR iz wun satisfactori feetyur about the sceem ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti : it wil be cwiet acseptabl tu the children ; thai wil need no forsing, drieving, or craming tu adopt it, for thai wood duu so aulredi if left aloen. The children ov tudai ar riep for fonetic speling. Nuthing iz mor noetisabl in the scuulz tudai than the decaidens ov the oeld stiel ov speling, consecwent upon beter teeching and beter speecing. Az the children lurn tu tauc mor cleerli and freeli, and thair edyucaishon gets wieder and on mor siëntific lienz, so duz the taasc ov forsing them tu spel ilojicali get mor dificult and distaistful. This iz geting a mater ov comon nolej. Wun ofen heerz it remarct in teecherz' meetingz, and it afordz a splendid oepening for advocaiting simplified speling.

Within the laast twelv munths in mi oen claas teeching I hav seen "thair, thay, tho, plow, meny, eny, wached, frunt," and so on, and hav aulso had uther caisez given me bi teecherz—aul this in fais ov our printed mater and eforts tu fors the children tu spel unfoneticali.

Wer aul our scuul-boocs printed in simpl speling, the teeching ov speling az such wood be unnesesari.

I am ofen aasct when shoing teecherz mater printed bi the S.S.S. : "Duu yu ecspect us tu teech this tu the children ?" I replie : "No." We shood need oenli tu teech the corect apreesiaishon ov soundz, the cleer enunsiaishon and pronunsiaishon ov wurdz, and tu reed from mater printed in acordans with this. Then speling wood riet itself. The dreeri unpalatabl ruuteen ov speling, dictaishon, ets., wood aul disapeer, and the tiem waisted on them wood be poot tu beter acount.

Aul that iz needed iz a Bord ov Edyucaishon surcyular (we hav had meni on les wurthi objects), directing that the children be instructed tu spel and riet thair wurdz az thai sound them, foloed up bi the translaishon ov scuul-boocs intu fonetic script. The children wood taic tu it az natyurali az thai duu tu plaiing marblz or sciping.

I am not in faivor ov apointing a Comishon or Comiti tu drau up the nyu fonetic speling. Speech iz the properti ov the peepl, evolvd and shaipt and hamerd out bi them, and I am ov opinion that everiwun shood be left tu spel az he liecs, aafter having reseevd a good jeneral edyucaishon. The vairiaishonz in speling wood not be veri grait and wood be revelaitori ov the rieter'z speech.

Wun thing trublz mi feloe-teecherz. That iz the etimolojical point ov vyu. Thai ar sumhou obsest with the iedea that etimoliji wil be destroid—I supoez thai meen the studi ov it. Perhaps, if thai nyu mor etimoloji themselvz, this wood cari les wait with them. I am pleezd that the Sosieti paiz atenshon tu this etimolojical argyument. It iz a boegi that needz forsibli laiing for good.

A. R. WILLIAMS.

[Our memberz ar remiended that thai can obtain eni number ov copiz ov the tuu pamflets on the "Etimolojical Argyument" ; a breef staitment (4 pp.) in the oeld speling, and a fuler treetment (12 pp.) in S.S.]

Our absens ov eni authoriti with such a funcshon az the revyuing ov our speling, and the maicing ov it rashonal, iz wel noen. Englishmen jenerali profes tu be proud ov it. I am mieself dispoezd tu thinc that a Roial Comishon miet with advaantij be charjd with the taasc ov revyuing our prezent speling; ov pointing out evident anomaliz in it; ov sujesting feezibl amendments ov it.—MATTHEW ARNOLD.

THE bulc ov the children paas thru the Guvernment scuulz without lurning tu reed and spel tolerabli. Thai miet lurn in wun yeer, and with real advaantij tu themselvz, whot thai nou recwier for or fiev yeerz tu lurn, and seldom sucseed in lurning aafter aul.—MAX MÜLLER.

TELEGRAAF AND ALFABET.

(This important leter woz orijinali adrest tu the Conferens on Speling Reform which met in London in 1911.)

THE introducshon ov nyu caracterz intu the English alfabet iz serounded with graiv dificultiz, becauz it wood upset everi printing ofis, and entail aulteraishon ov thouzandz ov lienotieps, and milionz ov tieprieterz.

I shood liec tu drau atenshon tu anuther argyument, les noen but not les graiv, against the introducshon ov nyu caracterz or acsented leterz intu the Latin alfabet. That argyument iz that such nyu caracterz can not be telegraaft. It wood involv the upseting ov the Morse coed. Yu duu not realiez whot that meenz, but I duu, becauz I woz in Australia when the Guvernment aulterd the signalz for sics leterz in the Australian Morse coed tu bring it intu harmoni with the Internashonal Morse coed. This smaul aulteraishon led tu ecstraordinari iritaishon and ajitaishon amungst a fyu thouzand telegraaf operaitorz in a popyulaishon ov oenli for milion peepl. The nyuspaiperz publisht colùmz daili on the subject for weecs, and the Guvernment bairli held its oen. If enibodi thincs he can chainj the habits ov the telegraaf operaitorz emploid bi the 150 milion English-speecerz guvernd bi meni independent Administraishonz, that purson iz veri sangwin indeed. It woz dun in Australia, becauz the Guvernment thair iz ecstreemli autocratic, but it cood not posibli be dun in England. Aulso cuntriz speecing uther langwijez—Germany, for instans—wil not consent tu the yus ov nyu caracterz simpli tu syut the conveeniens ov the English langwij. Impruuvment ov the English langwij iz the laast thing on urth that the German Guvernment wonts. Thair ar thouzandz ov Hughes and uther printing telegraafs in yus on the Continent and aulso several hundredz in yus in England, and the introducshon ov several nyu caracterz intu the alfabet emploid wood be uterli out ov the cwestion. Aulso the caracterz tu be yuzd in internashonal telegraaf trafic ar prescriebd bi the Internashonal Telegraaf Convenshon, and that bodi iz not in the leest degree liecli tu introdyus nyu caracterz intu the internashonal telegraaf alfabet tu impruuv the speling ov the English langwij.

Whair the yus ov speshal caracterz iz dezierabl tu reprezent speshal soundz, the oenli practicabl wai iz tu yuz combinaishonz ov consonants or vouelz, az the langwij haz aulredi instinctivli dun. This practis iz aulso foloed in the German telegraaf survis, *ä*, *ö*, and *ü* aulwaiz being riten or printed in German telegramz az *ae*, *oe*, and *ue*. It iz tu be noeted that acsented leterz ar just az objecshonabl from a telegrafic point ov vyu az entierli nyu leterz. Cyuriusli enuf, English iz practicali the oenli langwij free from acsented leterz.

I hav braut this telegraaf argyument under yur noetis becauz I hav had yuneec ecspeeriens in telegrafic wurc, and mi naim, az the inventor ov the Murray printing telegraaf sistemz, iz wel noen in telegraaf surclz boeth in England and uther cuntriz.

DONALD MURRAY.

(Brown & Murray, Ltd., Mildmay Avenue, London, N.)

FROM AUL PARTS.

(The foloing ecstracts ar from a long and interesting leter sent bi Mis May Gund, a scuulmistres in Nebraska.)

THE teecher ov litl children haz a delietful, dificult, and—wun miet aulso sai—dainjerus taasc. When wun teechez a song or a poëm, telz a stori for the chield tu reprodyus, or givz the chield a pensil, paint-brush, bit ov clai, or eni uther devies for manyual ecspreshon, the wurc for boeth teecher and chield iz neerli aulwaiz plezant. When wun teechez a number leson or enithing that recwierz the ecsersiez ov the reezoning pouer, the awaicening ov that faculti iz ofen dificult. But when wun givz a reeding or a speling leson, particyularli the later, thair iz real dainjer that confyuzhonz mai enter the litl miend and remain tu perplecs and trubl thruout lief.

The chield that iz strongli ie-miended haz litl dificulti in lurning tu reed or spel. He seez with hiz miend'z ie eech detail ov a wurd that he wonts tu spel and when he reedz he recogniezez the wurdz az hoelz and eech proeses iz an aid tu the uther.

The eer-miended chield mai recogniez the wurdz az hoelz eezili enuf for reeding, but when he poots the separait leterz tugether tu reprodyus the wurd in speling thair iz a grait lac ov harmoni.

Wun mai sai that in boeth methodz ov lurning tu spel it iz meerli a mater ov remembering the naim and arainjment ov the leterz in a wurd. Houever, the wun mai trust hiz ie entierli, but the uther mai trust hiz eer oenli tu a veri limited ecstent becauz thair ar so meni wurdz ful ov leterz that duu not sound.

For theez eer-miended wunz the teecher gruups the wurdz, thoez that hiz eer mai relie upon and then thoez trublsum utherz with the sielent leterz. Heer the teecher ecsersiezez aul the injenyuiti at her comaand tu atract the ie tu theez soundles leterz bi rieting them in colorz or underscoring them and vairius uther deviesez, much az the fonetic reederz hav the soundz ov meni ov the leterz shoen bi diacritical marcs and the sielent leterz indicaited bi lienz draun thru them. Thair iz no dout that such helps hav acomplisht much, particyularli in reeding. But no wun noez beter than the teecher hou much tiem and strength and paishens goe with them.

(Mr. H. Ramachar, B.A., L.T., riets from South India.)

Speling iz an act boeth ov the eer and the ie. In a sistem ov iedeal speling the eer cachez the cleer sound which, when riten, iz verified bi the ie. This iz posibl oenli when thair iz wun simbol (be it whotever it mai, for simbolz ar but convenshonz) for wun sound. In this respect Indian langwijez prezent no dificulti tu a lurner ov speling. In aulmost aul the Indian vernacyularz thair iz wun sien for wun sound, and a foriner hu wishez tu lurn such a vernacyular haz oenli tu perseev the limited number ov sienz with hiz ie and the limited number ov soundz with hiz eer. This iz not the cais with an Indian boi lurning English speling. He iz taut tu spel a surtin sound in a particyular wai, and befor hiz eer graasps the particyular sound ov that form he iz aasct tu reprezent the saim sound bi a diferent sien. The curent speling iz mor arbitrari than intelijent. Bi repeeted rieting the beginer haz tu cultivait the vizyual memori, and the objects ov such memori wil be az meni az thair ar divursitiz in English speling. A candidait siting for hiz B.A. degree egzaminaishon hapend tu forget the riet speling ov the simpl wurd "told." The speling ov the wurd "coal" stood in hiz wai, and he woz temted tu spel the paast tens ov "tell" az "toald." But az hiz ie woz not familiar with such a form, he strugld tu ariev at the riet speling and delaid hiz paiper. It iz reali a grait hardship tu maic intelijent children spend a long tiem in comiting tu memori theez unintelijent convenshonal formz.

NOETS AND NYUZ.

The membership ov the Sosieti nou numberz 1605.

A LITL boi ov ait yeerz atending scuul awai from hoem roet a leter tu hiz sister, from which the foloing ecstract iz taicen: "We had a spelling match to-day, and I spelled all the boys down and won the Meddle." The sting iz in the tail.

ON the 14th ov this munth tuu rezoluushonz wil be submited tu the Hed Mistresez' Conferens which meets in Cheltenham. Mis Burstall wil propoez and Mis Hewett second: "That this Conferens iz ov opinion that a reform in English speling iz dezierabl on edyucaishonal and Impeerial groundz." The further rezoluushon standz in the naimz ov Mis Gavin and Mis Stoneman: "That this Conferens vyuz with simpathi the sceem ov reform sujested bi the S.S.S."

MENI ov our reederz mai not be awair that the Impeerial Edyucaishon Conferens which, on the invitaishon ov H.M. Guvernment, met in London in 1911, yunanimusli paast the foloing rezoluushon: **"This Conferens iz ov opinion that the simplificaishon ov English speling iz a mater ov urjent importans in aul parts ov the Empier, cauling for such practical steps in everi cuntri az mai apeer moest condyusiv tu the ultimait atainment ov the end in vyu—the creaishon, in conecshon with the subject, ov an enlietend public opinion, and the direcshon ov it tu the maintenans, in its pyuriti and simplisiti amung aul English-speecing peeplz, ov the comon English tung."** The rezoluushon iz ov such importans, and so wel ecspresez our point ov vyu, that we hav throen it intu speshal prominens. Everi speling reformer shood noe it bi hart.

"THE Tirani ov Sentiment" woz the theem ov a leeding articl in the "Pall Mall Gazette" reesentli. Simplified speling woz not in miend, but much ov the langwij fits wel: "Sentiment iz the furst unchect impreshon which a fenomenon prodyusez on the feelingz. It iz a 'liec' or a 'disliec' which haz not waited tu taic acount ov acyurasi or reezon. And the majoriti ov miendz ar so constityuted that thai rezent being disturbd in the cumfort ov theez furst impreshonz and having tu confes tu themselvz that thai wer misled bi a presipitait vyu." Deen Inge, in a surmon at St. Paul'z, spoec at length ov the "perenial worfair between tradishon, or custom, and reezon." In this batl we ar not unwurthi fieterz.

AULMOEST the laast act ov the lait Lord Avebury, wun ov our Vies-Prezidents, huuz deth we sinseerli regret, woz tu send a donaishon tu the fundz ov the Sosieti. He woz a noebl jentlman, and perhaps no fraiz iz truer ov him than this—"He woz a braicer-doun ov barierz." Whotever stood in the wai ov joi "in wiedest comonalti spred" woz fuud for hiz jentl hachet. He woz a reformer ov English speling becauz it iz a barier befor the fais ov aul hu hav tu lurn the langwij.

PROF. JOSEPH BOWDEN, ov Brooklyn, N.Y., haz sent us a sceem ov speling founded on the siëntific alfabet. Sum ov hiz remarcs ar veri much tu the point. "The sistematic yus ov simplified speling iz becuming a marc ov distincshon. Nun but thincerz belong tu the muuvment, and nun ar amung its activ suporterz ecsept men hu ar wiling tu sacrifies thair oen conveeniens for the good ov the jeneraishonz stil tu cum." Whi not join this aristocrasi?

DR. SCOTT, the Secretari ov the American Speling Bord, gaiv an adres on "The Intelectyual Baisis ov Simplisiti" at the furst anyual meeting ov the Brooklyn Speling Reform Sosieti. "The English langwij iz a glorius heritij,

but it iz caipabl ov indefinit impruuvments. Our real moetiv in this muuvment," he ecsplaind, "iz not that we consider the prezent wai ov speling a waist ov tiem, but **it iz baist on intelectyual indignaishon.**" That iz a fien noet.

EVERITHING that bringz nyu liet and inspiraishon intu teeching haz our apruuval, and it iz with plezher we record the formaishon ov a Montessori Sosieti in this cuntri, with Mrs. May Smyth, 90 Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W., az the Secretari. Dottoressa Montessori'z children literali ecsploed intu speling; but then Italian iz neerli fonetic.

MR. E. H. HIGHFIELD sujests that "the Sosieti shood hav a baj maid, tu be soeld tu memberz at a reezonabl pries, sai 6d. or 1s." If utherz ar ov liec miend, we shal be glad tu noe. Tuu materz must be cept in vyu for the autum: (1) Formaishon ov Loecal Braanchez. The begining mai be maid bi having a soeshal gathering tu which teecherz and edyucaishonists can be invieted. (2) Speechez and debaits at literari sosietiz. Leterz tu the loecal pres ar aulso ov grait valyu. The Secretari wil be glad tu suplie the naimz ov memberz in eni particyular toun or district—and he noez ov mor than wun frendship that haz been maid thru simplified speling.

METHODZ ov teeching tu reed hav been criticali egzamind in a set ov articlz in the "Teacher's World." We cwoet a sujestiv paragraaf: "The 'looc and sai' method haz, houever, surtin seerius defects. The glib repetishon ov wurdz aafter the teecher woz a pyurli mecanical taasc which set the reeding leson outsied the pail ov edyucaitiv ecsersiezez, ecsept whot woz gaind in interest and instrucshon from the reeding mater itself. Thair woz litl mental efort recwierd, and the habit ov pasivli imitaiting the teecher'z wurdz tendz tu indyus a similar habit ov miend in uther subjects. The apeel, again, woz practicali entierli tu the vizyual memori, on which woz impoezd tuu grait a strain, eeven in the strong 'vizyualz' ov the claas, whielst the 'non-vizyual' children hav no posibl method ov discuveri when wuns vizhon faild them."

THIS leter, with its tuch ov paithos, speecs for itself: "Thair iz no dout that English printed az spoecen (ov cors I heer refur tu truu or corect speech) cood be a veri grait buun tu the def. It wood not oenli be a buun az an aid in the teeching and lurning ov speech reeding, it wood aulso be a buun tu thoez hu, liec mieself, hav livd in absoluut sielens, so far az hyuman speech iz consurnd, for long peeriodz. We ar apt tu forget the *egzact* sound or combinaishon ov soundz in meni wurdz. This, eeven when we luv and habityuali reed vurs."

WE hav reseevd from Mr. Bazaru Suryanarayana Rao, ov Vizagapatam, a long and interesting leter. We regret that naroenes ov spais forbidz our printing mor than a meer fragment: "Scuulmaasterz hu hav been teeching the yung the English alfabet can never forget the freecwent erorz in speling, comited in spiet ov up-tu-dait methodz, and the uter helplesnes and confyuzhon ov the boiz when conflicting prinsiplz prezent themselvz, az in 'put' and 'but.'"

"EVERI nyu thing," sez the "Philistine," "haz tu fiet for its lief. Everi inovaishon iz opoezd. The tug ov inurshia haz us aul bi the foot, and we wood raather fiet for the oeld than taic on the nyu." In theez paijez we hav given historical ilustraishonz ov this opozishon. Railwaiz, steem-ships, tieprieterz wer aul delaid bi it. Edison not oenli had tu discuver methodz whairbi electrisiti can be yuzd, but tu edyucait the wurld tu its yus. When George Westinghouse invented the air-braic, hiz real taasc woz tu convins the railroed peepl ov its valyu. But, az Dr. Macan, Maaster ov Yunivursiti Colej, Oxford, sez in a paiper given befor the Clasical Asoesiaishon, **"The prezent absurd orthografi ov English iz a hevi drag on edyucaishon and a grait obstacl tu the ecstenshon and adopshon ov English az the jeneral meedium for the ecschainj ov iedeas; its radical reformaishon can oenli be a cwestion ov tiem."**

MR. E. B. OSBORN, hu sucseeded Andrew Lang on the "Morning Post," reesentli roet a cupl ov articlz on Yunivursal Langwijez. "In the fyutyur," he declairz—and he duz so az wun hu haz seen mor ov this planet than moest men —"English must be whot Latin woz in the paast, and if a simplificaishon ov its speling wood haisen on the dai ov acsepted hegemoni, let us simplifie in Heven'z naim."

SAAMPLZ ov noet-paiper for prievait yus (with or without the sceem ov speling doun the marjin) wil gladli be suplied bi the Secretari on aplicaishon. The loen ov a die for impresing prievait noet-paiper mai aulso be arainjd; and the Secretari wil be pleezd tu cwoet for supliing eni cwontiti ov noet-paiper with a member'z oen adres speshali printed thairon. The saamplz ar free and mai be had at wuns.

THAT urnest aposl ov fonetic speling, the Rev. J. Knowles, ov Eastbourne, had a leter in the "Manchester Guardian" urjing the claimz ov India. "Whot duu we fiend?—90 per sent. ov the mailz, 99 per sent. ov the feemailz, and 50 per sent. ov the poleesmen can not reed and riet thair muther tung." Mr. Knowles wonts an impeerial alfabet. We difer on points ov deetail, but in spirit our wurc iz wun with hiz.

THE seezon for fansi dres baulz iz oever. Nevertheles, we throe out an iedea for necst winter. Tuu costyumz, wun deziend tu reprezent an Oeld and the uther a Nyu Speler, wood yeeld no end ov fun. In America the craiz iz for speling beez. The laitest number ov the "Simplified Speling Buletin" givz ecstracts culd from nyuspaiperz in meni ov the Staits. "In Altoona, Pa., a speling bee had tu be poestpoend becauz, acording tu Prinsipal W. W. Osborne, the 'Jefferson bilding' woz tuu smaul for the 'Jiant Meet,' meening the imens asemblij ov wood-be competitorz." Wun laidi haz declaird that her polisi az Stait Cheef ov Scuulz wil be "tu reviev the oeld-fashond speling bee." Sez wun benieted man: "Such an interest cood be wurct up thruout Minnesota that aul thru the sumer the children wood be poring oever spelerz and dicshonariz with the saim zeel thai emploi in hunting burdz'-nests or maicing fier bi fricshon." Tu whot depths ov dust a mainia for "corect speling" mai leed a man!

IT haz been pointed out that "potato" cood, cwiet consistentli with valyuz atacht tu leterz in uther wurdz, be speld *gheauphtheightteough*. Heer iz the unraveling: *gh* in "hiccough," *eau* in "beau," *phth* in "phthisis," *eigh* in "weigh," *tte* in "gazette," and *ough* in "though." The seed ov a nyu form ov speling bee iz heer.

IT iz with speshal plezher that we anouns that the second edishon ov *The Star* wil be publisht bi Sur Isaac Pitman & Sons, Ltd., 1 Amen Corner, London, E.C. The dai iz neer when Sur Isaac's magnifisent wurc for speling reform wil cum intu veri grait prominens, and it iz fiting that the furm which bairz hiz naim shood be in sum wai asoeshiaited with the laiter aspects ov the muuvment. The Secretari wil be glad tu arainj speshal turmz for thoez hu wish tu purchas copiz ov *The Star* for distribyushon.

MEMBERZ FOR THE MUNTH.

Anyual Memberz:

Mrs. J. Evans, Locock's Hill, Northampton.
Misez Elisa Boschetti, 7 Via Torchio, Milan, Italy.
M. E. Burke, Dudley Girls' High School, Priory Road, Dudley.
D. Curtis, 133 Windsor Road, Forest Gate, E.
E. I. Curtis, 133 Windsor Road, Forest Gate, E.
E. Ridgway, 158 Howard Road, Walthamstow.

Prof. M. Walker, Municipal School of Technology, Manchester.
Dr. A. Biard, 17 rue Segalier, Bordeaux.
Messrs. J. A. Bee, 53 Derby Road, Heaton Moor, near Stockport.
Geo. A. Bubbers, 2 Ravenswood Road, Walthamstow.
George S. Dickson, The Academy, Moffat.
Norman Hardy, Fletcher House, Almondbury.
Thomas Heeney, Jr., 18 Brailsford Road, Fallowfield, Manchester.
W. Horton, 135 Somerville Avenue, Glasgow.
R. Invrea, 27 Corso Duca di Genova, Torino, Italy.
Thomas H. Johnson, 3 Hanover Gardens, Higher Broughton, Manchester.
Charles H. Kirby, c.o. Brown, Shipley, & Co., 123 Pall Mall.
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Harold G. Vickers, 85 London Wall, E.C.
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Mr. V. M. Ramaswami, B.A. *Mr.* T. G. Venkataranar, B.A.
Mr. V. Venkata Subraiya, B.A.

PRES CUTINGZ CLASIFIED.

LETERZ IN SUPORT OV S.S. hav apeerd in **Glasgow Herald** ("Anthony Newfriend" advocaits a fonetic alfabet), **Hull Dally Mail** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 1; **Wishaw Press** ("En Avant"), **Durham County Advertiser** (H. Drummond), **Blackpool Herald** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Whitby Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 2; **Dufftown News** ("Aberdeen"), Mai 3, 17; **Hull Daily News, Eastern Morning News** (H. Drummond), **Whitby Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Glasgow Herald** ("Tho-though" sez: "The sceem ov the S.S.S. iz ov the naityur ov an injeenius compromiez . . . and posesez the outstanding merit ov paiving the wai for an eezi transizhon in the fulnes ov tiem tu a mor rijidli fonetic sistem"), **Nottingham Daily Express** (H. Drummond), **Manchester Weekly Times** (Secretari S.S.S.), **Whitby Gazette** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 3; **Paisley Daily Express** ("En Avant"), **Evening Telegraph** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 6; **Bournemouth Echo, South Wales Argus** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 7; **Glasgow Herald** (H. Drummond and George Higgie), Mai 8; **Essex County Chronicle** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 9; **Aberdeen Evening Express** (W. Stewart Thomson), **Manchester City News** (H. Drummond), **Essex County Chronicle, Hull Daily News** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 10; **North Eastern Daily Gazette** (H. Drummond), Mai 14; **Northern Echo** (H. Drummond), **Essex County Chronicle, British and Colonial Printer and Stationer** (Secretari S.S.S.), Mai 15; **Newcastle Weekly Chronicle** (H. Drummond), Mai 17; **Bristol Times and Mirror**, Mai 20, 23, 27, 30; **Manchester Guardian** (J. Knowles), **Dufftown News, Yorkshire Gazette**, Mai 24; **Eastbourne Gazette**, Mai 28; the **Star**, Mai 29; **Yorkshire Post, Northern Daily Telegraph, Northern Echo**, Mai 30; **Blackburn Weekly Telegraph**, Mai 31.

PROF. RIPPMANN'Z ARTICL ON "ENGLISH AZ THE INTERNASHONAL LANGWIJ" apeerz in the **African Times and Orient Review** for Mai; in the **Buchanan Times** (Saskatchewan), Mai 2; **London Advertiser** (Ontario), Mai 3; **Cardiff Western Mail**, Mai 4; **Rotherham Advertiser**, Mai 10.

An articl on the IMPEERIAL ASPECTS OV SPELING REFORM iz printed in the **Whitby Gazette** and the **Dublin Evening Telegraph**, Mai 10.

A colum articl on the SPELING BEE apeerz in the **Ayr Observer**, Mai 20; **Cheltenham Examiner**, Mai 22; **Worksop Guardian**, **Ardrossan and Saltcoats Herald**, Mai 23; **Blackburn Weekly Telegraph**, **Birmingham News**, **Worthing Observer**, Mai 24; **Western Mercury**, Mai 28; **North Mail**, Mai 29.

PITMAN SENTENARI SELEBRAISHONZ wer noeted in aulmoest aul the London and provinshal paiperz. Speshal referens tu Sur Isaac az speling reformer woz maid in the **Christian World**, Mai 29.

Daily Telegraph and the **Star**, Mai 27, tel ov a nyu yunivursal langwij cauld Veltlang, invented bi the Ofishal Translator tu the U.S. Guvernment Articlz on "Yunivursal Langwijez" apeer in the **Morning Post**, Mai 16 and 23. The **Leicester Post**, Mai 23, haz a paragraaf on the speling ov "story" and "storey." **Town Topics**, Mai 24, haz a wood-be-witi sentens or tuu. The **Catholic Herald**, Mai 23, givz a noetis ov the Sosieti. **Cambria Daily Leader**, Mai 30, cwoets from the Secretari'z leter tu the **Star**.

Manchester Illustrated Chronicle cwoets "Ape owe 'em" from THE PIONEER for Aipril, Mai 13.

THE REZULT OV A SPELING TEST with the wurdz "sore, paw, daw, tore, caw" iz given in **Evening Standard**, Mai 8; **Edinburgh Evening News**, **Glasgow Herald**, Mai 9; **Aberdeen Evening Express**, Mai 10; **Pall Mall Gazette**, Mai 12.

The **Daily Chronicle** givz a spesimen ov aiteenth sentyuri speling: "Gave Geekup Kollins for his gall too shelins and six pens. Also his close for the insewing yere," Mai 2.

SUR HARRY JOHNSTON'Z BOOC ON FONETIC SPELING, which iz shortli tu be publisht, iz menshond in **Oldham Evening Chronicle**, **South Wales Argus**, **Bournemouth Echo**, **Sussex Daily News**, Mai 1; **Belfast Evening Telegraph**, Mai 3.

The foloing LECTYURZ ar reported:

Gravesend.—**Gravesend Reporter**, Mai 3.
Kettering.—**Schoolmaster**, Mai 3.

EDITORIAL NOET.

THE PIONEER iz publisht everi munth, ecsept for tuu munths in the sumer. The Editor'z adres iz 45 Ladbroke Grove, London, W.

THE PIONEER iz sent graitis tu aul Memberz ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti. The anyual subscripshon for Asoeshiait Memberz iz a minimum ov wun shiling, that for Activ Memberz a minimum ov fiev shilingz. Mor muni meenz mor pouer tu cari on the campain.

Memberz ar urjd tu aplie for leeflets seting forth the aimz ov the Sosieti. Theez and aul uther informaishon wil be gladli sent bi the Secretari ov the Simplified Speling Sosieti, 44 Great Russell Street, London, W.C.

C. F. Hodgson & Son, Printerz, Newton Street, London, W.C.

ALFABETICAL LIST ov SIMPLIFIED SPELINGZ

a in **a**t

aa — f**aa**ther
[oenli wun a befor r—az **ar**t]

ai — **ai**d, **air**

au — **au**tum

b — **b**at

c — **c**at
[never az in "city"]

ch — **ch**at

d — **d**ot

e — **e**nd

ee* — **ee**l

er — p**er**form, ush**er**
[unstrest—ur when strest]

f — **f**at

g — **g**et
[never az in "gem"]

h — **h**at

i — **i**t

ie* — t**ie**d

j — **j**et, **j**uj

k [yuzd oenli in proper naimz]

l — **l**et

m — **m**ét

n — **n**et

nc — zi**nc**

ng — si**ng** and li**ng**er

o — **o**n, **or**

oe* — g**oe**z

oi — **oi**l

oo — g**oo**d
[short vouel: ecsepshonz—tu, ful, fuli]

ou — **ou**t

p — **p**et

ph [yuzd oenli in proper naimz]

q [yuzd oenli in proper naimz]

r — **r**at

s — **s**at

sh — **sh**e

t — **t**en

th — **th**in, **th**is

u — **u**s

ur — **ur**ban, conc**ur**
[strest—er when unstrest]

uu* — b**uu**n ["boon"—long vouel]

v — **v**at

w — **w**et

wh — **wh**et

x [yuzd oenli in proper naimz]

y — **y**et

yu† — **yu**sful, **yu**tiliti

z — **z**est

zh — vi**zh**on ["vision"]

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* **e** (or second **u**) dropt befor a vouel, and in the foloing monosilablz:—be, he, me, she, the, thre, we; I, bi, mi, whi; O, no, so, tho; hu, thru, tu.

† **yu** iz yuzd in strest az wel az in unstrest silablz.

Eeven the Hen Caclz and the Coc Croez.

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